

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****Patent and Trademark Office**

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Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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08/260,536 06/16/94 LORENCE

R 57704

HM12/0901

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ARLINGTON VA 22201-4714

EXAMINER

SCHEINER, L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1648

DATE MAILED:

09/01/00

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks**



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office  
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
08/260,536			

EXAMINER	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1641	44

DATE MAILED:

**Please find below a communication from the EXAMINER in charge of this application**

The reply filed on August 20, 1999 is not fully responsive to the prior Office action because: applicants clearly fail to argue the rejections set forth in the last Office action which would specifically pertain to the newly filed claims corresponding to the previously examined claims (i.e., claims which would not be withdrawn from consideration in accordance with election by original presentation practice). For example, it is noted that newly filed claim 308 (renumbered as 318 in accordance with Rule 126) would be subject to the same outstanding art rejections of the now canceled claims. It is also noted that the improper cancellation of all prior claims in lieu of a written response to the outstanding rejections which would apply to newly filed claims is improper, and not a first occurrence. That is, applicants have now twice taken this improper approach although a non-responsive letter was sent by the Office following the first occurrence.

Since the period for reply set forth in the prior Office action has expired, this application will become abandoned unless applicant corrects the deficiency and obtains an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a).

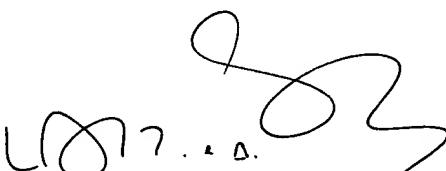
The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. In no case may an applicant reply outside the SIX (6) MONTH statutory period or obtain an extension for more than FIVE (5) MONTHS beyond the date for reply set forth in an Office action. A fully

responsive reply must be timely filed to avoid abandonment of this application.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Laurie Scheiner, whose telephone number is (703) 308-1122. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group 1600 receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Correspondence related to this application may be submitted to Group 1600 by facsimile transmission. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). Official communications should be directed toward one of the following Group 1600 fax numbers: (703) 308-4242 or (703) 305-3014. Informal communications may be submitted directly to the Examiner through the following fax number: (703) 308-4426. Applicants are encouraged to notify the Examiner prior to the submission of such documents to facilitate their expeditious processing and entry.

  
Laurie Scheiner/LAS  
May 4, 2000

  
LAURIE SCHEINER  
PRIMARY EXAMINER